

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

PTO/SB08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 1

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Application Number | 10/027,647 |
| Confirmation Number | 1490 |
| Filing Date | December 21, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Lucio (nmn) Picotti |
| Group Art Unit | 1744 |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | AA511 |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| | 1 | WO 00/46331 | A1 | Clarke, et al. | 08/10/2000 | |
| | 2 | WO 99/63034 | A1 | Vinson, et al. | 12/09/1999 | |
| MS | 3 | US 5,990,065 | | Vinson, et al. | 11/23/1999 | |
| | 4 | WO 99/27053 | A1 | Kasturi, et al. | 06/03/1999 | |
| | 5 | WO 99/27054 | A1 | Kasturi, et al. | 06/03/1999 | |
| | 6 | WO 99/27057 | A1 | Kasturi, et al. | 06/03/1999 | |
| | 7 | WO 99/27058 | A1 | Kasturi, et al. | 06/03/1999 | |
| | 8 | WO 99/24539 | A1 | Kasturi, et al. | 05/20/1999 | |
| MS | 9 | US 5,889,893 | | Robson Dyer et al | 03/30/1999 | |
| | 10 | WO 99/03512 | A2 | Boucher, et al. | 01/28/1999 | |
| MS | 11 | US 5,260,345 | | Des Marais, et al. | 11/09/1993 | |
| MS | 12 | US 5,089,534 | | Thoen, et al. | 02/18/1992 | |
| MS | 13 | US 4,789,690 | | Milovanovic-Lerik, et al. | 12/06/1988 | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Office ³ Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| MS | 1 | EP 1111031 | A1 | Clark, et al. | 06/27/2001 | | |
| | 2 | JP 09030215 | | Haruo, et al. | N/A. 2-1997 | | |
| | 3 | JP 10182780-A | | | 07/07/1998 | | |
| | 4 | JP 10176073 | | | 06/30/1998 | | |
| | 5 | JP 05070544-A | | | 03/23/1993 | | |
| | 6 | WO 00/46331 | | | 8-2000 | | |
| MS | 7 | WO 99/63034 | | | 12-1999 | | |

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

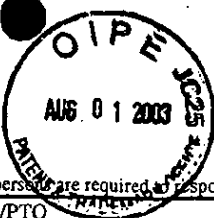
| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| EXAMINER | | DATE CONSIDERED | |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → (+)



PTO/SB08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

| | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) SHEET 1 of 1 | COMPLETE IF KNOWN | |
| | Application Number | 10/027, 336 647 |
| | Confirmation Number | 3766 |
| | Filing Date | December 21, 2001 |
| | First Named Inventor | Lucio (nmn) Pieroni, et al. |
| | Group Art Unit | 1744 |
| | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Attorney Docket Number | AA-510 | |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

CLASS

SUB-
CLASS

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| MS | 1 | US-3,943,591 | | Lanussé | 03-16-1976 | 15 29 |
| | 2 | US-4,168,560 | | Doyel | 09-25-1979 | 15 29 |
| | 3 | US-4,917,238 | | Schumacher | 04-17-1990 | 206 223 |
| | 4 | US-5,423,102 | | Madison | 06-13-1995 | 15 22.2 |
| MS | 5 | US-5,881,418 | | Enoch | 03-16-1999 | 15 101 |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CLASS

SUB-C

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Office ³ Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
| MS | | WO 99/27053 | | — | 6-1999 | — | |
| | | WO 99/27054 | | — | 6-1999 | — | |
| | | WO 99/27057 | | — | 6-1999 | — | |
| | | WO 99/27058 | | — | 6-1999 | — | |
| | | WO 99/24539 | | — | 5-1999 | — | |
| MS | | WO 99/03512 | | — | 1-1999 | — | |

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | DATE CONSIDERED 1-8-03 |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

RECEIVED
AUG 04 2003
TC 1700